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- 6. (Thrice Amended) The process for producing a hydrogenated ester according to claim 30, wherein the reaction temperature at the initial time of the hydrogenation reaction is in the range of 0°C to 200°C.
- 7. (Thrice Amended) The process for producing a hydrogenated ester according to claim 30, wherein the unsaturated group-containing ester represented by the general formula (1) is at least one compound selected from the group consisting of: allyl acetate, crotyl acetate, methallyl acetate, allyl propionate, crotyl propionate, methallyl propionate, vinyl acetate, vinyl propionate, 1,3-butadienyl acetate, and 1,3-butadienyl propionate.
- 8. (Thrice Amended) The process for producing a hydrogenated ester according to claim 30, wherein the hydrogenating catalyst comprises at least one element selected from the group consisting of Group VIII elements, Group IX elements and Group X elements in the periodic table.
- 10. (Thrice Amended) A process for producing a hydrogenated ester by hydrogenating an unsaturated group-containing ester represented by a general formula (3) by using a hydrogenating catalyst so as to produce a hydrogenated ester corresponding to the unsaturated group-containing ester, wherein the concentration of a carboxylic acid in a raw material containing the unsaturated group-containing ester represented by the general formula (3) is 1 wt. % or less:

$$R^{1} \xrightarrow{R^{2}} R^{4} R^{5} \xrightarrow{O} Q$$
 (3)

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wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> denote an arbitrary alkyl group containing 1-10 carbon atoms, an arbitrary alkenyl group containing 2 - 10 carbon atoms, or a hydrogen atom and may be the same as or different from each other; the alkyl group and alkenyl group may be either straight-chain or branched; R<sup>6</sup> represents a C1-C10 alkyl group.

- 32. (Twice Amended) The process for producing a hydrogenated ester according to claim 31, wherein the hydrogenating catalyst comprises at least one species selected from the group consisting of palladium, ruthenium and rhodium.
- 34. (Twice Amended) The process for producing a hydrogenated ester according to claim 33, wherein the hydrogenating catalyst comprises at least one species selected from the group consisting of palladium, ruthenium and rhodium.